GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2578
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2005
MCI ACT
Madhwaraj Smt. Manorama

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the last two amendments made to the Medical Council of India Act (in 1993 and 2001) have strengthened the council`s autonomy ;

(b) if so, the reasons for bringing forward a new bill ;

(c) whether the proposed bill envisages replacement of medical professionals in the Council with bureaucrat nominees ; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and its likely impact on the professional competence of the MCI ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) and (b) : The amendments of 1993 and 2001 were not related to the issue of autonomy of the Council. By the amendment of 1993, the power to grant permission for establishment of new medical college, increase in intake capacity, starting of higher courses of study was taken over by the Central Government from the State Government. The role of MCI for these purposes was recommendatory in nature.

By the amendment of 2001, screening test was introduced for registration of India nationals who have acquired foreign medical degree.

A new Bill is envisaged to amend the said Act to make the composition of the Council more compact and representative, and also to ensure efficiency and accountability of the Council.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.